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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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WOULD'JA
BELIEVE---
KRAVEN
THE
HUNTER!

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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

WORRY NOT, FRANTIC ONE! IF THIS TANTALIZING TALE TALKS MAKES YOU FEEL AS THOUGH YOU'VE JUST WALKED IN AT THE MIDDLE OF A MOVIE, THAT'S THE WHOLE IDEA!

IT'S SUPPOSED TO AROUSE YOUR INTEREST, EXCITE YOUR CURIOSITY, AND STIMULATE YOUR THIRST FOR... THE UNEXPECTED!

HOWEVER, NOW THAT WE GOT YOU TO READ THE FAR WEST BETTER ADMIT THAT IT'S A FLASHBACK SCENE. SHOW AN INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, WHILE THE GREEN GOBLIN WAS STILL FLYIN' HIGH. SO, LET'S JOIN THE SHAKIN', SWEETIE...

HAN! SPIDER-MAN THINKS KRAVEN IS FIGHTING HIM JUST FOR THE SHEER LOVE OF BATTLE!

BUT, LITTLE DOES THE WEB-SLINGING FOOL REALIZE THAT THE GREEN GOBLIN HAS PROMISED TO PAY THE HUNTER TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE DEATH OF SPIDER-MAN.

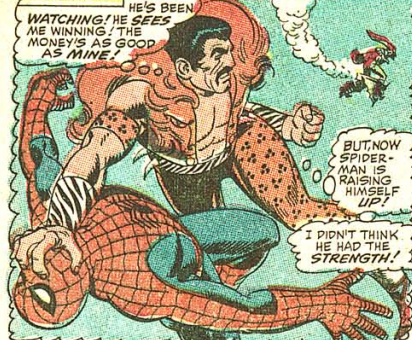
"IN THE HANDS OF THE HUNTER!"

IF THAT'S THE BEST YOU CAN DO, MASKED MAN, THE VICTORY IS AS GOOD AS MINE!

A SWINGIN', SUPER-SPECIAL SPIDEY SAGA, BY:
STAN LEE and JOHN ROMITA
 ABETTED and LETTERED BY: **SAM ROSEN**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is published by NON-PAREIL PUBLISHING CORP. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022. SECOND CLASS MAIL PRIVILEGES AUTHORIZED AT NEW YORK, N. Y. ADDITIONAL ENTRY AT Herndon, Conn. Published monthly except November, semi-monthly. Copyright ©1966 by Non-Pareil Publishing Corp., all rights reserved. 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 47, April, 1967 issue. Price 12c per copy. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. by The Eastern Color Printing Co., Waterbury 20, Conn. Martin Goodman, Publisher. Subscription rate \$1.75 and \$2.25 Canada for 12 issues including postage. Foreign subscriptions \$3.25 in American funds. Prices do not include King Size Special November Issue.

EVEN AS THEY FOUGHT, KRAVEN WAS SO OBSESSED WITH THE THOUGHT OF THE \$20,000 HE HAD BEEN PROMISED, THAT HE COULD BARELY CONCENTRATE ON THE MATTER AT HAND...

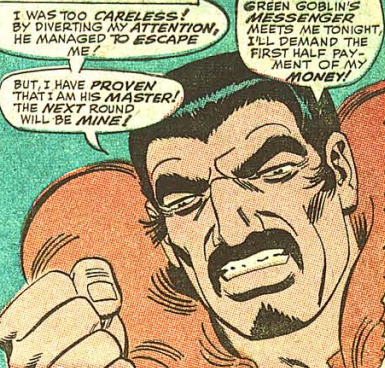


HE'S BEEN WATCHING! HE SEES ME WINNING THE MONEY AS GOOD AS MINE!

BUT NOW SPIDER-MAN IS RAISING HIMSELF UP!

I DIDN'T THINK HE HAD THE STRENGTH!

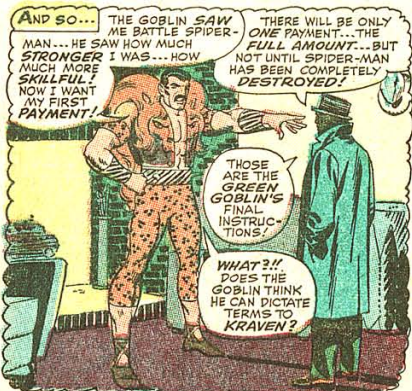
THEN, MOMENTS LATER...



I WAS TOO CARELESS! BY DIVERTING MY ATTENTION, HE MANAGED TO ESCAPE ME!

BUT, I HAVE PROVEN THAT I AM HIS MASTER! THE NEXT ROUND WILL BE MINE!

AND WHEN THE GREEN GOBLIN'S MESSENGER MEETS ME TONIGHT, I'LL DEMAND THE FIRST HALF PAYMENT OF MY MONEY!



AND SO... THE GOBLIN SAW ME BATTLE SPIDER-MAN... HE SAW HOW MUCH STRONGER I WAS... HOW MUCH MORE SKILLFUL! NOW I WANT MY FIRST PAYMENT!

THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE PAYMENT... THE FULL AMOUNT... BUT NOT UNTIL SPIDER-MAN HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED!

THOSE ARE THE GREEN GOBLIN'S FINAL INSTRUCTIONS!

WHAT?!! DOES THE GOBLIN THINK HE CAN DICTATE TERMS TO KRAVEN?



LOOK... DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON ME, FELLA! I'M JUST HIS GO-BETWEEN!

I'LL DO MORE THAN TELL HIM! AFTER SPIDER-MAN FALLS, THE GREEN GOBLIN WILL BE MY NEXT VICTIM!

YOU'RE LIVING IN A FOOL'S PARADISE, CHUM! NOBODY CAN BEAT THE GOBLIN!

GET OUT! TELL HIM TO PAY ME... OR HE DIES!



BUT, NO SOONER DID THE UNKNOWN EMISSARY DEPART, THAN...

HOW EASY FOR THE GREATEST HUNTER OF ALL TO SILENTLY FOLLOW THE GOBLIN'S HIRELING!

KRAVEN WILL HAVE HIS MONEY... AND HIS REVENGE!

SOONER OR LATER HE'LL CONTACT THE GOBLIN... AND WHEN HE DOES...

NEFARIOUS NOTE: IN CASE YOU DON'T REMEMBER THIS STIRRING SEQUENCE FROM ISH #15 OR #24, (KRAVEN'S LAST TWO APPEARANCES), IT'S BECAUSE WE DIDN'T SHOW IT! AFTER ALL, WE CAN'T BLOW THE WHOLE BIT IN EVERY YARN!

--- SNEAKY STAN.

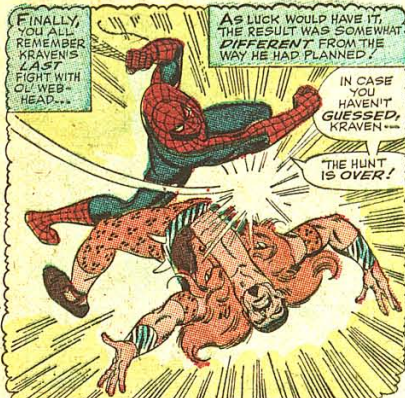


BUT, AS THE LONG UNEVENTFUL EVENING WORE ON...

NO SIGN OF THE GOBLIN! BUT, AT LEAST I LEARNED THAT HIS MOUTHPIECE IS NORMAN OSBORN, THE RICH CHEMICAL MANUFACTURER!

THE GOBLIN MUST BE HAVING A MILLIONAIRE LIKE HIM SAYING AS HIS FLUNKY!

* TOO BAD KRAVEN NEVER READ ISH #20 LIKE WE DID, OR HE'D KNOW THAT OSBORN HIMSELF WAS THE GOBLIN... RIGHT, TIGER? -- YOU KNOW WHO? *

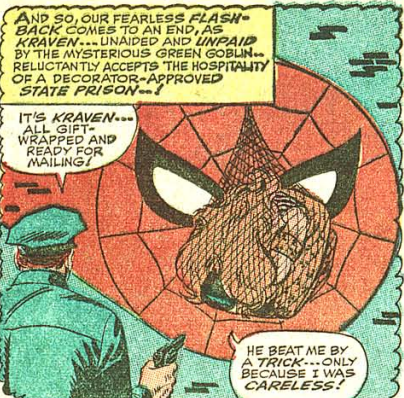


FINALLY, YOU ALL REMEMBER KRAVEN'S LAST FIGHT WITH OL' WEB-HEAD...

AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, THE RESULT WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM THE WAY HE HAD PLANNED.

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T GUESSED, KRAVEN...

THE HUNT IS OVER!



AND SO, OUR FEARLESS FLASH-BACK COMES TO AN END, AS KRAVEN... UNAIDED AND UNPAID BY THE MYSTERIOUS GREEN GOBLIN... RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTS THE HOSPITALITY OF A DECORATOR-APPROVED STATE PRISON...

IT'S KRAVEN... ALL GIFT-WRAPPED AND READY FOR MAILING!

HE BEAT ME BY A TRICK... ONLY BECAUSE I WAS CARELESS!



HAVING HAD MANY LONG, LONELY MONTHS OF CONFINEMENT IN WHICH TO REGRET HIS CARELESSNESS, WE NOW PICK UP THE THREADS OF OUR TANGLED TALE HERE IN THE PRESENT, AFTER OUR BESTIAL BADDIE HAS PAID WHAT IS LOOSELY REFERRED TO AS HIS DEBT TO SOCIETY...

SPIDER-MAN IS THE ONLY LIVING BEING WHO'S EVER DEFEATED ME!

BUT FIRST, I'LL TRACK DOWN THE GREEN GOBLIN! HE OWES ME SOMETHING FOR THE TIME I SPENT IN JAIL!

I'LL NEVER REST UNTIL I'VE TOTALLY... AND COMPLETELY DESTROYED HIM!



THEN, EFFORTLESSLY BREAKING INTO THE MORGUE ROOM OF THE DAILY BUGLE, KRAVEN TEARS THROUGH THE BACK ISSUES, UNTIL HE FINDS...

I'M TOO LATE! HE'S DEAD... AND SPIDER-MAN HAD A HAND IN IT!

DAILY BUGLE

GREEN GOBLIN DIES IN FIRE!

SPIDER-MAN AT SCENE!



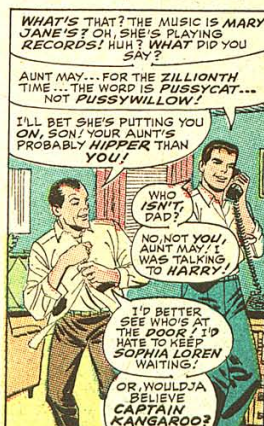
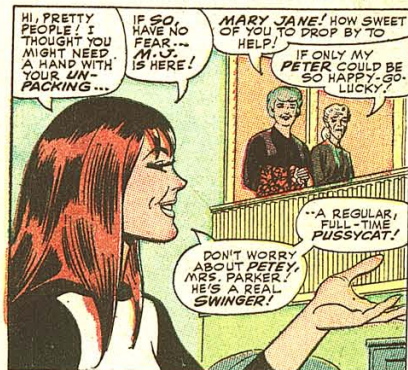
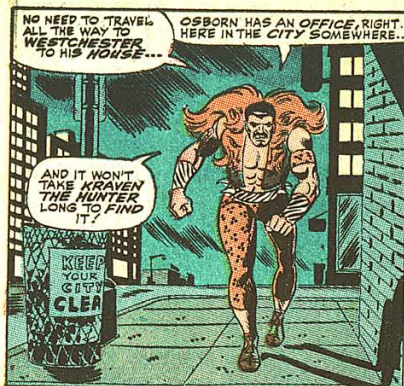
ONCE AGAIN THAT MASKED, WEB-SLINGING WEASEL HAS SPOILED MY PLANS!

AND THIS TIME HE'LL PAY FOR IT... AND HE'LL PAY IN FULL!

BUT FIRST, I NEED MONEY... AND I KNOW JUST WHERE TO GET IT...

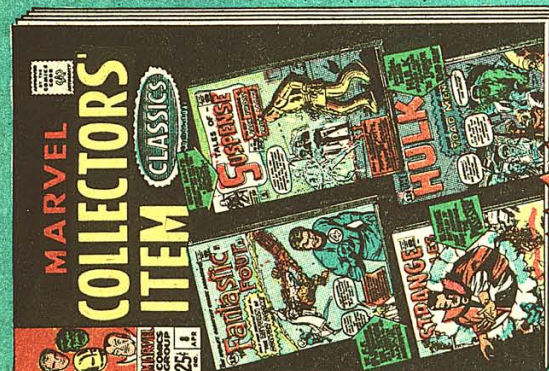
NORMAN OSBORN... THE GOBLIN'S FLUNKY! HE'LL PAY MY PRICE... OR DIE!

BTANN!

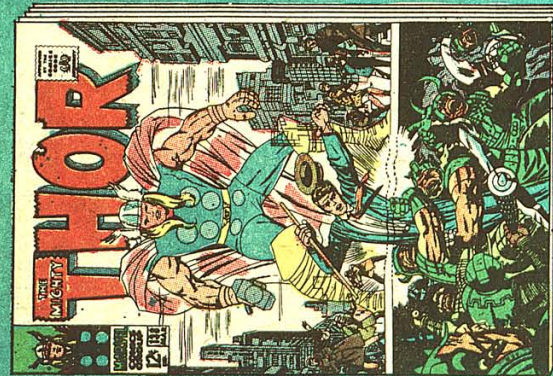


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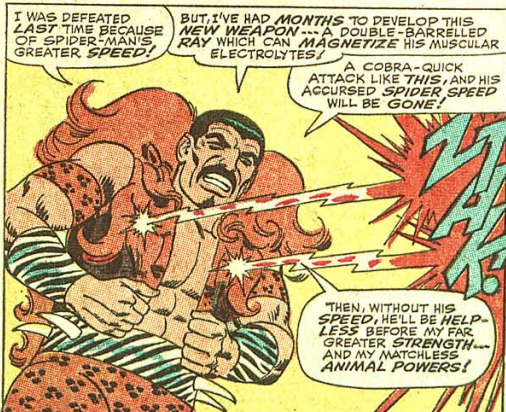
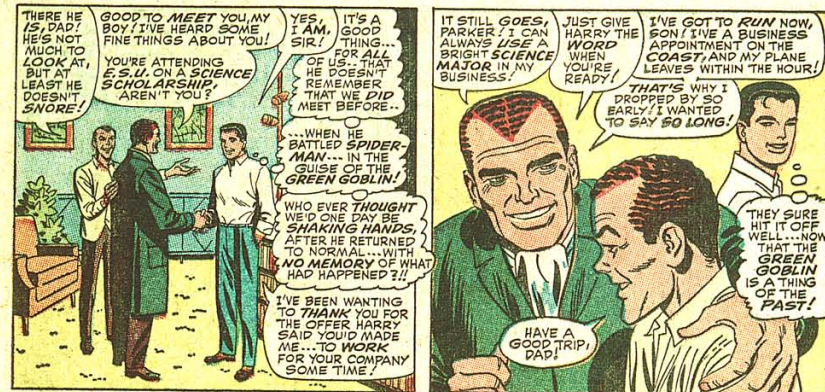
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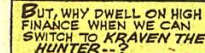
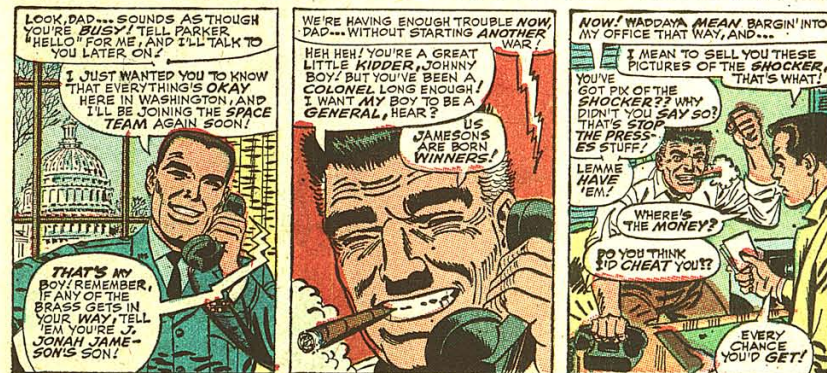
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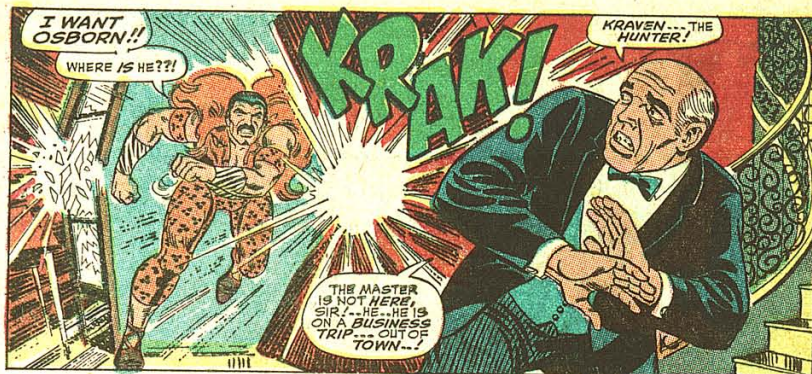
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U.S. government figures show the average high school graduate earns \$70,000 more in a lifetime than the person who didn't finish high school.

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So why make it hard for yourself to "get the breaks" ... when it's so easy to finish high school the Academy spare-time way?

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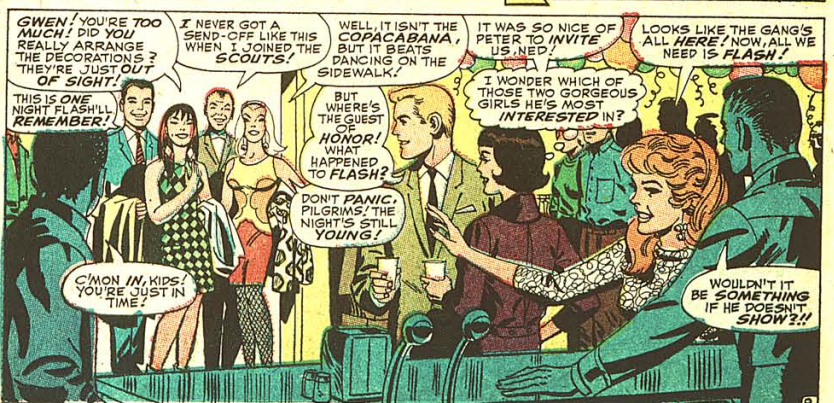
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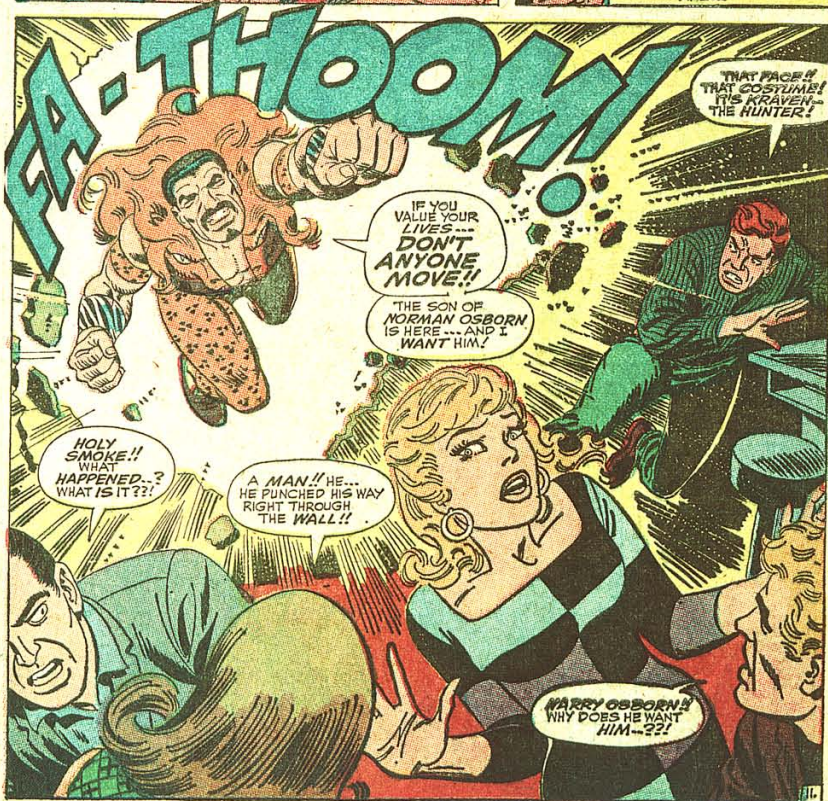
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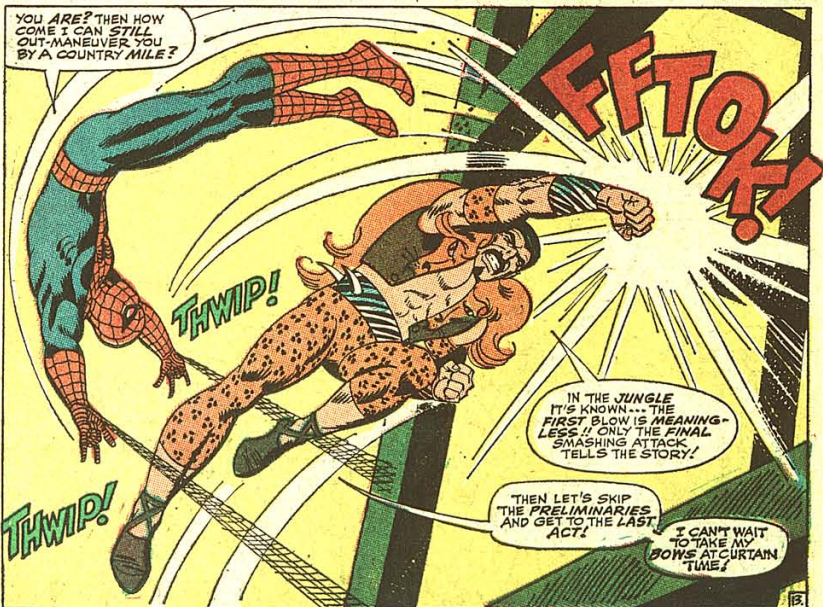
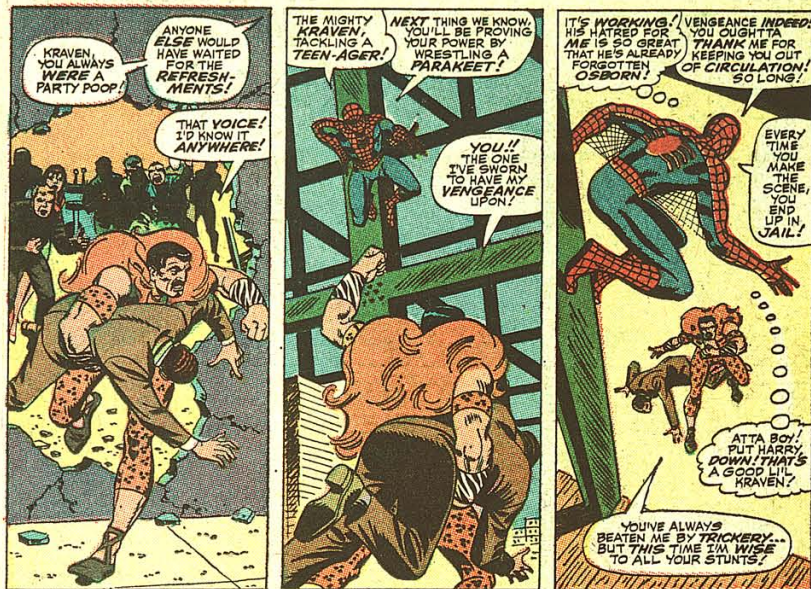


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NORMAN ROCKWELL—America's most beloved artist. He is a founder and member of the Guiding Faculty of the Famous Artists Schools.

"We're looking for people who like to draw" says NORMAN ROCKWELL

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist—last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he

became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

A Plan to Help Others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned

into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test—or offer other evidence of art talent—may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

Famous Artists Schools Studio 5252, Westport, Conn.

- I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr. ☐ Age _____
Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Circle one and please print!

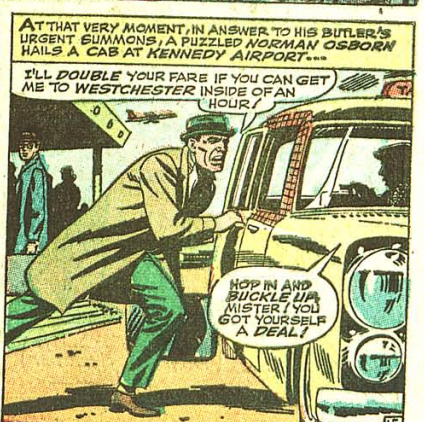
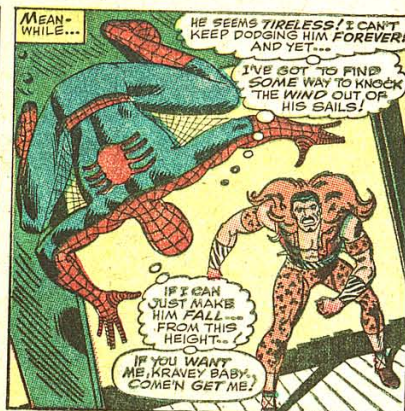
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LOOK — GIANT PHILIPPINE

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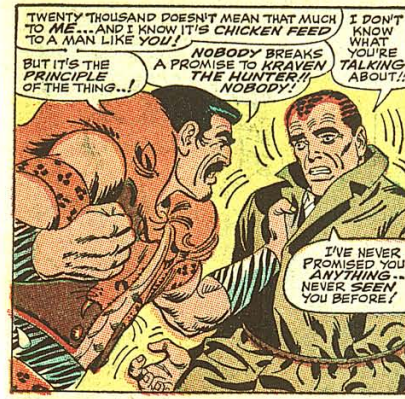
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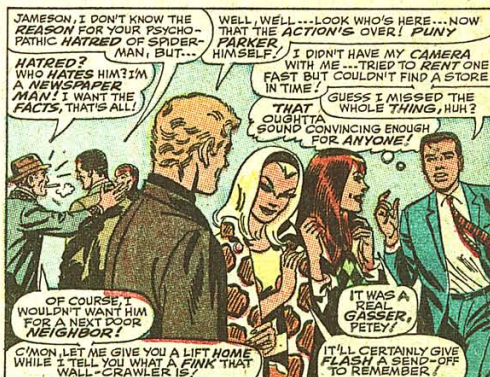
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A BATTY BARRAGE OF BOMBASTIC BULLETINS; BURSTIN' WITH BI-PARTISAN BARTER, BARE-FACED BANALITY, AND UNABASHED BULL!

DIDJA KNOW? The Marvel Super-Heroes Show on TV is seen in far-off Australia, Japan, Uruguay, Canada, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, and even Kalamazoo! (Of course, none of those exotic places mentioned are far-off if you happen to live there—but, we're sure you get the idea!) As for the candid, capricious comments of our avortin' critics-at-large—it seems that most merry Marvelites think it's a blast—and they're relieved that our crazy cartoons are reasonably true to the spirit of the mags themselves. As for us, we're going batty trying to keep up with all the shows. In some cities the program is presented five nights a week during the prime-time evening hours. In other cities, it's on the air three nights a week—and in some, it's shown during the afternoons. Some channels feature their own M.C.'s introducing the cartoons while some just put our fabulous little fables on the air without any other whoop-de-do. As for the ratings, we've learned that in most of the key cities where the show is presented, it's been clobbering all the opposition—thanks, no doubt, to the support of lots of Marvelers everywhere! By the way, we still receive some mail from desperate devotees in areas where Marvel Super-Heroes is not yet televised, asking how they can compel their local channels to get with it. Since we're in the business of producing comic mags, and the TV end is something as new to us as it is to you, we can only suggest that those of you whose cities are still Marvel Super-Heroes-less write to your favorite local channels and try to make 'em see the error of their ways! Although, at the rate TV stations throughout the free world are hopping on the madcap Marvel and wagon, there may not be any culturally underprivileged cities left by the time this meritorious message sees print! And now—one last important point: If you've any cataclysmic comments about the show—anything you like, or loathe—send 'em to your local station. Simply introduce yourself as one of Marvel's fabulous faithful and pour it on 'em. Just as your litten letters have been a truly vital factor in maintaining the quality of the mag you're now reading, so will they help to make our Marvel Super-Heroes Show the kind of TV fare you want it to be! If you like the show's announcer, or think he's for the birds—if you want to discuss the hour at which it's televised, or the manner in which it's presented, or even if you just wanna write and say "Face Front!", take pen in hand and DO IT, tiger—your local channel will love hearing from you! And your Bullpen buddies won't haveta worry about you becoming inhibited! And now—on to other equally earth-shattering items:

DIDJA KNOW? Genial GENE COLAN bought himself a motorcycle a short while ago and chewed our ears off telling us how great it was. A few days later he came to the Bullpen with a couple of bandaged elbows and a sheepish expression. Today, he's riding around in a swingy little sedan once again, leaving the cycle bit for guys like Peter Parker and his ilk! And fate! Spidey doesn't haveta worry about his drawing hand!

Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.s members!

Drew Herzog
Fair Oaks, Cal.
Franklin Fishier
Honolulu, Hawaii

Gary Grossnick
Las Vegas, Nev.
Pat Kasey
Windsor, Ill.
Mary Collins
Houston, Tex.
Tom Brodersen
Phoenix, Ariz.

Albert Grossman
San Francisco, Cal.
Chris Kuchler
Lawrence, Kans.
Marty Cole
Chucky, Tenn.
Barry Meyer
Park Forest, Ill.

Bob Croby
Richmond, Va.
Mike Limpron
Cottondale, Fla.
Jack Bimney
Charleston, S.C.
Michael McGinn
Kewanee, Ill.

Mike Holt
San Diego, Cal.
Richard Lloyd Allen
Oak Grove, Mo.
Jack Caserio
Iowa City, Iowa
Andy Richard Chavez
Canton, Miss.

Norm Ingham
Birmingham, Mich.
Cecil Hunt
N. Randall, Ohio
Richard Fletcher
Springfield, Ill.
Douglas Daniel
Hoboken, N.J.

Roderick Gordon
Jamaica, N.Y.
Bruce Hoppe
Thousand Oaks, Cal.
John Macerese
Charlotte, N.C.
Terry Meister
Parama Hts., Ohio

DIDJA KNOW? Speaking of bandages 'n stuff, someone over at Brand Eichm must be sticking pins in a Marvel doll! Just a few weeks ago, Larupin' LARRY LIEBER (O'! Rawhide Kid himself) bent down to pick up an art eraser and suddenly sprained his sacroiliac when he straightened up! It meant a week of bed-rest for luckless Larry while O'! Rawhide had to fend for himself. Then, we no sooner got our little invalid on his feet again than whammo, Wild BILL EVERETT did practically the same thing to his sacroiliac while stepping off a bust! Bill is great on submarines, bucking broncos, and surf-boards—but those ordinary, slow-moving busses—yeeesh! Anyway, Mr. Sub-Mariner was also flat on his back for a week while the rest of us spent our time making sure our hospitalization policies are all paid up! You never knew so was dangerous producing comics, eh?

DIDJA KNOW? When Marvel hires a new art associate, we don't kid around—we get our money's worth. Step up and meet JOHNNY VERPOORTEN, our newest Bullpen backup man. Jumbo John is six feet, six inches tall, and tips the scales at a mere 290 pounds! (He thinks we latched onto him to do artwork for us—but wait! he sees the costume we're making for him! All we have to do is trick him into it, and we'll have a new, ready-made super-hero to unleash upon mankind!)

DIDJA KNOW? Rascally ROY THOMAS just let the cat out of the bag, admitting that he gave up a scholarship to George Washington University just to write for Marvel! He would have studied world events at G.W.U., and might have ended up becoming a diplomat! However, knowing how the 'ol rascalion shoots his mouth off, he might also have accidentally started World War III—so, we figure mighty Marvel has saved humanity once more by keeping Mr. T. chained to his typewriter.

DIDJA KNOW? JOLLY JACK KIRBY'S ears must be really burning. Every comic mag fan has his own personal favorite among all the artists employed by all the different companies—but, when it comes to the opinion of the pro's themselves—when it comes to naming the ARTISTS' ARTIST, there isn't even a contest! Every time the conversation here at the Bullpen gets around to artwork (and what ELSE is there to talk about?), you should hear the top men in the field lower their voices when the name of King Kirby comes up. It's generally agreed that, when you talk of super-hero illustration; of action drawing; of imaginative conceptions; of dynamic, double-barreled masterpieces, Marvel's maverick master simply has no peer! There is hardly a pro pencil-pusher in the field today who hasn't been influenced by Jolly Jack's memorable masterpieces—or by the constantly shattering impact of his creativity! Don't be embarrassed, Jack—this is just Stan's cornball way of telling you that it's been a ball all these years, pal—and the best is still ahead!

THE WRAP-UP! We're plumb outta room, so have loose and fast for life's a swingin' symphony, and we don't wancha to make a note of it! 'Nuff said!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvelous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #61: The Sandman returns, more dangerous than ever—but, the big shocker is...the fearsome fate of Reed Richards! It's stun!

AVENGERS #38: Cap absent on leave, the Black Widow behind the Bamboo Curtain—and now, the fateful challenge of the peerless Prince of Power—Hercules!

X-MEN #30: Our marvelous mutants face the wondrous wizardry—or is it the supernatural genius—of a foe aptly named...the Warlock!

DAREDEVIL #26: At last—the secret identity of the Masked Marauder revealed—plus the reappearance of the sensational, sinister, startling Stiltman!

THOR #138: See the God of Thunder battle the unbearable Ulrik for the life of STUNNING Siff! And, wait'll you meet up with the mysterious, awesome Orik!

STRANGE TALES #155: Nick Fury faces his greatest challenge—from within S.H.I.E.L.D. itself! As for Dr. Strange, the only way he can save Clea—is to lose her!

SUSPENSE #88: You'll never forget Iron Man's last-ditch combat with the Man-Mag's legions! And, canucky really be alive again, as Cap battles Power Man and the Swordsman?

ASTONISH #90: The Sub-Mariner faces his most desperate defeat against the menace known as Byrrah! And, speaking of defeats, wait'll you see who the Hulk is up against!

SGT. FURY #40: Everybody's favorite Howlers set out to rescue a leader of the super-french underground—only to find themselves caught in a deadly trap!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #8: The F.F.I. O'! Shellhead! The Master of the Mystic Arts! And, the Jolly Green Goliath himself! Wotta way to start the new year!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #7: The original Human Torch and Sub-Mariner—plus more Golden Age goodies with the one and only Captain America! And, just for good measure, three far-out fantasy favorites!

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7. IRON MAN			
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9. SGT. FURY			
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Dear Stan and John,

While thumbing thru a Brand Echh comic, I came across something that infuriated me. Some orange-faced character belonging to an (ugh!) group of super-boobs had just finished tying up a monster with his web after turning into a spider! He then said, "In case a certain web-headed character thinks I'm stealing his thunder, I'd like to remind him that I was changing to all sorts of weird shapes long before he walked up his first wall." As you know, he was referring to our own Spidey! You fellas usually make your Brand Echh references in a good-natured, half-kidding way; and you've never actually pin-pointed any competitive mag or character. But they're getting nasty. I think you should really let them have it. I've never written before, but when I saw that statement, I just had to. Your comics are the greatest!

Gerard Addonizio, 109 Forest St.
Medford, Mass. 02155

Thanks, Ger! 'Twas nice of you to leap so valiantly to our defense. However, there's one thing that concerns us far more than any free advertising Brand Echh wants to give us — and that is the fact that it took a mention in another mag to get you to write to us! Why have you chosen to remain aloof so long? Why haven't you cared enough till now? What have we done wrong — where have we failed? Must we contact our competitors and beg them to mention us in order to hear from you again? Say it isn't so, tiger! — One last note: Quite a few indignant Marvelites have commented upon that same reference to Spidey in a mag which we shall charitably not identify. We deeply appreciate the concern of all you True Believers — but don't worry about it, gang. Any knock is a boost... and our ill-advised competitors have been unintentionally boosting us all over the place! 'Nuff said!

Dear Stan and John,

The men of 142 George St. at Rutgers University have had a running controversy for three consecutive days and nights. So now, to get some sleep, we have decided to let you decide this pressing question — where is the Lizard's tail coming from? Wouldn't the aperture ruin his pants and probably make them fall down? Please give us the answer to this pressing question, so we can pass it on to all the other ignorant Rutgers men. Thank you.

A. Rothholtz, H. Kwitter, A. Bulin, M. Segal,
(Rutgers Univ.)
142 George St., New Brunswick, N.J.

Y'know something, guys? We were discussing the same thing in the Bullpen ourselves — just a few weeks ago! We couldn't agree upon an answer any more than you can, and we ended the discussion with the fervent hope that nobody would ever bring the matter up. But now you've spoiled everything! Ergo, there's nothing for us to do but fall back on a united Marveldom and offer another irreplaceable no-prize for the best answer to the prodigious problem you have thus passionately posed! So, sharpen your pencils and your pointy little heads, pussycats, and let's hear it from ya!

answer to the prodigious problem you have thus passionately posed! So, sharpen your pencils and your pointy little heads, pussycats, and let's hear it from ya!



Dear Stan and John,

As soon as I heard that SPIDER-MAN #48 had arrived, I dropped everything, ran madly down to the local drug store, fought tooth and nail with women and children, and bought the last copy they had. I then raced home, kicked my kid sister out of my room, locked the door, and prepared to lose myself in the precious adventures of good old Spidey. Then tragedy struck! On page 3, panel 4, I was shocked to see that debonair Pete Parker was fat! He looked like Foggy Nelson's twin brother! This is a crime that is almost unforgivable. All the local Spideyphiles wanted to form a lynch party but, looking back at jazzy Johnny's spotless record, we decided to let him live. I suggest that you take away his MMS membership card and make him sit in a corner and draw Brand Echh-type super-heroes for one hour. On with Marvel!

Johnny Fisher, Box 60
Kingwood, Okla.

Johnny, Johnny, Johnny! We're surprised at you! Does your weight never vary from day to day — or month to month? And, to be even more explicit — have you never seen a fat spider? Is anything cuter — more winsome — more appealing — than a chubby little roly-poly arachnid? He upon thee, chum! However, in our unceasing effort to please every Keeper of the Flame, no matter what his desire, we shall submit a calory-counting regimen to Jazzy Johnny and suggest that he applies it to our well-fed web-slinger! Okay?

Dear Stan and John,

You guys get me mad! Why? Because Spider-Man is a loner and it looks like you're going to keep him that way — well, don't! I implore you, please, don't let him be by himself. Instead, team him up with Daredevil — together they'd make a terrific team. By doing this, you could prove to the public that Spider-Man isn't such a menace after all. Sorry to get carried away. I forgot to tell you how excellent issue #44 was. The first thing I noticed was the cover — it was terrific. That dark background gave real suspense to the whole story, and, as usual, the art was excellent. Now to get down to facts. Poor Doc Connors needed help, so where was Spider-Man? To solve this, Spidey could reveal his identity to Doc Connors, and the Doc could contact him when necessary. So heads up, and continue the great work!

Charles Cwynar, 1031 Chestnut Ave.
Long Beach, Cal. 90813

We will, Charlie — we will! But, Doc Connors finally got the help he needed without Web-head giving away his greatest secret. Actually, judging by the flood of letters we've received these past few years, most Spidey buffs want our harassed hero to continue being a loner — but, as soon as the mail starts going the other way, we'll take immediate action. You know we don't have minds of our own!

Dear Stan and John,

Like wow! SPIDER-MAN #44 was the greatest. The cover was marvelous! Johnny Romita outdid himself. (Now I see why you keep him chained to his desk at the Bullpen!), to say nothing of the fab artwork on the inside. Pete never looked so handsome, Mary Jane was never so cool, Gwen never so beautiful, and J.J.J. never (?) so funky. The idea of bringing the Lizard back was a stroke of genius; the idea of Aunt May going on a trip was just the thing to add that special touch that all Spidey mags have. So if you haven't gotten the idea by now, I think that Stan and John did it again — they turned out another Marvel masterpiece. By the way, I'm working on a special no-prize for Stan and John — a pop-art picture of Spidey made of old Cherrio holes pasted together. 'Nuff said!

Rod Price, 1695 Lindaire Lane
Mansfield, Ohio

We just can't wait, Rod! And, as soon as we receive your little goody, we'll send you an equally desirable no-prize — a complete series of reprints, suitable for framing, of all the articles which Jolly Jonah Jameson has written telling the public how wonderful Spidey is!

Dear Stan and John,

"Rhino on the Rampage" was enough to make me take time out from my classes and drop you a dew-dripping letter of congratulations. That was truly Spidey at his best. One point, though, why stick Pete Parker with that same blue suit all the time? I mean, he doesn't have to be a fashion plate; but pleated pants? Give the boy some more up-to-date threads, and watch Mary Jane flip for him. Also, while I'm here, put my name in the hat for those beautiful no-prizes for solving the problem of Spidey's age. After some careful research, I discovered that the American Turret Spider (*Geolycosa arenicola*) sometimes lives as long as five years, while others, like the tarantula, live up to 16 years; yet all mature to a point, then live an extended adulthood. Couldn't Spidey's life span also have been extended in proportion to that of a spider? If so, he would physically age very slowly, and though his chronological age would advance, and he would probably have to be taken out of college, he would still have his great appeal to teens for in essence, he would still be one. You could always send him into V.I.S.T.A., where he would have an insight into crime centers by seeing conditions that cause them, and if he fell for an extremely poor girl, well, the Parker-type problems are obvious. Hope I've been of some help. Keep the great going work, and give my best to Pete and the crowd.

Bruce Rice, 39 Cedar St.
Dunkirk, N.Y.

Likewise, Bruce! Sure, you've been a great help, pal! You've made us more confused than ever — and that's not easy! As if we don't have enough to do now, we'll have to drop everything and start an intensive study

and research program into the life cycle of *Geolycosa arenicola*! Oh well, if the next few hundred takes of Spidey hit the newsstands late, you'll know the reason why! Now let's see — who's got an encyclopedia we can borrow—?



Dear Stan and John,

Wow! That's all I can say for issue #43. The Rhino was a great villain for Spidey. He's strong, fast, intelligent and practically invulnerable. But why didn't the police shoot him someplace in the face? Well, I guess it would have all ended then if they did. I think Spidey's the greatest hero there ever was! Before I read Marvel Comics, I was a fan of Brand Echh. They call you Brand "I." I didn't understand what it meant, but then I figured out what it stands for — intellectual, inimitable, inspiring, invincible, and infinitely more interesting.

John Cross, 1563 Brockton Ave.
Los Angeles, Cal. 90025

Shucks, Johnny — and we never even sent 'em a thank-you note!

NEXT ISH: If you think you've seen the last of ol' killjoy Kraven — forget it! Much to Spidey's regret, we're in for more maddening menace from our Herculean hunter! Ahh, but that's only part of the titanic thrills in store for you! After an absence of many months, one of the greatest, most memorable of all super-villains returns to prove once again that, just when you think mighty Marvel has reached the absolute pinnacle of perfection, we can always come up with something even more sensational — namely, the vicious *Vulture*! When you see the way Vulture comes alive via the inspired artwork of Ring-A-Ding Romita, you'll wanna stand up and cheer! (But you'll be too weak from worrying about poor Patsy's perilous predicament!) Oh — and in case we forget to mention — SPIDER-MAN #48 has more hard-hitting, fast-paced action panels than you could dare hope for! All in all, web-spinners, our next ish is a bell-ringer, and we oughta know — we're the ones who did it! So, hang loose, gang — in our book, you're heroes all!

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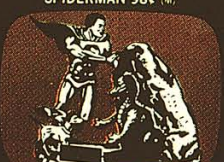
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